



APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
Majority Caucus • Jim Nussle, *Chairman*

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FISCAL YEAR 2003 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS BILL Conference Report

SUMMARY

On 10 October 2002, the House passed the conference report accompanying the Military Construction appropriations bill (H.R. 5011, H. Rept. 107-731). In the House, the bill is within its allocation and complies with the Congressional Budget Act.

The conference report provides \$10.499 billion in new discretionary budget authority [BA] and \$10.071 billion in outlays for fiscal year 2003. It is \$416 million in BA and \$19 million in outlays above the amount in the House-

passed bill (see Table 1 below). The conference report provides a reduction of \$105 million in BA and an increase of \$854 million in outlays compared to fiscal year 2002. Spending in this appropriations bill has increased an average of 6.7 percent a year in each of the past 3 years, including the effect of this conference report.

The conference report does not include advance appropriations. It does include \$83 million in rescissions of previously enacted BA.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE BUDGET RESOLUTION

The conferees' agreement is within the 302(b) allocation established in keeping with the House-passed Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2003 (H.Con.Res. 353). The report also complies with section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act, which prohibits Congress from considering appropriations bills that exceed the appropriate subcommittee's allocation. The \$10.499 billion in budget

authority and \$10.071 billion in outlays is below the Military Construction Subcommittee's 302(b) allocation by \$1 million in BA and \$49 million in outlays. The conference report – taken together with defense appropriations conference report and the continuing resolution agreed to last week – is also within the Appropriations Committee's overall 302(a) allocation.

Table 1: Military Construction Appropriations Bill
(fiscal years; millions of dollars)

	2002 Enacted	Administration 2003 Request	House Passed 2003	Conference 2003	Difference Conference less House
Budget Authority	10,604	8,947	10,083	10,499	416
Outlays	9,217	9,842	10,052	10,071	19

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This document was prepared by the majority staff of the House Committee on the Budget. It has not been approved by the full committee and may not reflect the views of all the committee's members.

DISCUSSION

The conference report is \$416 million in BA higher than the House-passed version due to increases in Reserve components (\$159 million), the Army (\$139 million), the Air Force (\$113 million), and base realignment and closure (\$16 million). These increases were offset by reductions to family housing (\$16 million), Defensewide building programs (\$27 million), and the North Atlantic Treaty

Organization [NATO] security program (\$1 million). These figures are shown in Table 2 below. The amounts above are net of \$83 million worth of rescissions of previously enacted budget authority due to foreign currency fluctuations (\$45 million); the Army (Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico, \$30 million; Fort Bliss, \$5 million); and the Air Force (Osan Air Base Korea, \$3 million).

Table 2: Discretionary Spending in the Military Construction Appropriations Bill
Budget Authority
(in millions of dollars)

	House	Senate	Conference	Difference Conference less House
Army	1,496	1,665	1,635	139
Navy	1,244	1,216	1,304	60
Air Force	955	1,165	1,068	113
Defense-wide	898	924	871	-27
Reserve Components	530	610	689	159
Family Housing	4,247	4,229	4,204	-43
NATO Security Investment Program	168	168	167	-1
Base Realignment and Closure	545	645	561	16
Total	10,083	10,622	10,499	416

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